

REMARKS

Independent claim 2 has been amended to limit the ion-accelerated, wear-resistant, electrically conductive coating to a circular electrically conductive coating. Dependent claim 4 has been amended to limit an ion-accelerated, wear resistant, electrically conductive coating to a circular ion-accelerated, wear resistant, electrically conductive coating.

An electrically conductive circular slip-ring, that has a circular ion-accelerated, wear-resistant, electrically conductive coating, the coating containing simultaneously ion deposited, contiguous, metal-ion-accelerated metal atoms and carbon-ion-accelerated diamond-like carbon atoms, on the circular outer surface of the electrically conductive circular slip-ring, is not taught, and is not suggested, by U. S. Patent 5,786,068.

The '068 patent shows making dielectric coatings on a flat substrate. The '068 patent teaches coating each flat substrates with a flat dielectric coating. In the '068 patent, a flat dielectric coating is formed on each flat substrate.

The '068 patent teaches away from the rotor and coated slip-rings of amended claims 2 and 4, due to formation of a flat dielectric coating. on each flat substrate, rather than having a circular electrically conductive coating on each circular slip-ring.

Dorfman et al. does not teach and does not suggest a rotor having circular electrically conductive coatings on slip-rings. The presently claimed circular electrically conductive coatings on electrically conductive circular slip-rings, is not disclosed and is not obvious from Dorfman et al.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion in U. S. Patent 5,786,068 for one to rotate electrically conductive circular slip-rings around an axis that is parallel to adjacent carbon-ion and metal-ion sources, while accelerating carbon ions and metal ions toward the rotating electrically conductive circular slip-rings, in order to produce circular electrically conductive coatings on the electrically conductive circular slip-rings. In the '068 patent there is no teaching or suggestion to form such a circular electrically conductive coating on an outer surface of each electrically conductive circular slip-ring.

It is respectfully submitted that the present patent application is now in condition for allowance and early allowance is respectfully requested. Entrance of the present amendment is respectfully requested for allowance or appeal purposes.

Respectfully Submitted,

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